

pay for Members should not be increased until the Federal budget has been balanced.

I decided to introduce this legislation for two reasons. First, as public servants, we shouldn't be accepting automatic, backdoor annual pay increases. I believe that pay raises for Members of Congress should only happen after debate in the open, on the House floor, so that the American people will know that we are doing.

Second, I believe that this body has no business accepting a pay raise until we've balanced the budget. This body has been granted a public trust by the American people to keep our Nation's fiscal house in order, and the Congresses of yesteryear have not kept their part of the bargain. Instead, Congress has run up a \$5 trillion national debt that our children and grandchildren will have to pay off.

While I know that some Members have been in Washington so long that they view the act of balancing the budget as an exercise in futility, the simple truth is that we can balance the budget in 6 more years if we have the political will to do so. When this body shows the fortitude to balance the Federal budget, then, and only then, will we be deserving of a pay raise.

#### ENFORCE ENVIRONMENTAL AND LABOR SIDE AGREEMENTS

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 1996*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I introduce this bill today to help enforce the environmental and labor side agreements sold to the Congress by President Bill Clinton to obtain ratification of the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA].

NAFTA's detrimental effect upon both the environment and the American worker are being further realized the longer we allow current practice to continue. Today, I propose a mechanism that requires the President to verify the enforcement of the side agreements that were used to gain Congressional approval of NAFTA. Unfortunately, these well-intentioned, feel good side agreements have no teeth, and thus, provide none of the environmental or labor protections promised during the passage of NAFTA.

My bill requires the President to certify to Congress, on an annual basis, the compliance of NAFTA parties—Mexico, Canada, and the United States—with the side agreements. Should a party fail to meet certification, the United States will deny financial assistance—including loans or extension of credit by international financial institutions—to that country. As a last resort, targeted tariffs against products most benefitting from side-agreement noncompliance may be pursued.

In short, my bill merely requires the President to verify side-agreement compliance and creates a mechanism to help ensure Mexico enforces its own laws. It is my hope that such enforcement will protect the environment and economy of the United States, two things that are endangered under current practice.

#### AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE'S PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 1996*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of my colleagues a very constructive public education campaign that has been undertaken by the American Jewish Committee [AJC], an organization with which I have had the pleasure to work with for many years.

As part of its mandate to promote tolerance and safeguard the essential ideal of pluralism, the AJC has run full-page advertisements in the New York Times, the Washington Post, and other publications enunciating the theme, "It Takes All Kinds." The AJC statement proudly commends our country for having achieved, to an extent nowhere else on Earth, a common dream of freedom. But, at the same time, the statement acknowledges that this dream has been subject to challenge. From the recent series of church burnings, to the increasingly loud voices that promote division along racial, ethnic, and religious lines, and with the threat of domestic and international terrorism within our borders, America's common dream is threatened by the haters and the dividers.

I applaud the American Jewish Committee for the service it has performed in raising public consciousness of the danger posed to all of us by those few who espouse words—and carry out actions—of hate and divisiveness, and in inviting us to partake in the daily enterprise of ensuring that America fulfills its promise of freedom, justice, and mutual respect for all.

I ask that the text of the American Jewish Committee's ad "It Takes All Kinds" be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### IT TAKES ALL KINDS

The tired. The poor. The huddled masses yearning to breathe free.

From every corner of the world, from every race, faith, culture and creed, we have come or been brought to America. Separately and together, we have dreamed of freedom. And in America, as nowhere else on earth, we have made the dream of freedom real.

But today, that common dream of freedom, that common pursuit by a diverse people of a stronger and fairer America, is challenged. In communities across the land, suspicious fires lay waste to African-American and other churches, sowing fear and outrage. In the media, in the halls of Congress, on the campaign trail and in the streets, angry voices echo distressingly familiar calls to divide America into "us" and "them" along ethnic, racial, religious and other lines. The well-being of American democratic pluralism—in which each of us holds an equal stake in our nation's future—is in question.

At the American Jewish Committee, we have worked for 90 years to safeguard that essential ideal of pluralism. The task is critical. Too easily and too often, the delicate cords of law and civility that bind society have frayed, setting group against group. When those cords snap, all are threatened, indeed, the essence of America is imperiled.

Join us in the cause of keeping America safe from the haters and dividers. Join us in the vital, daily enterprise of ensuring America fulfills its promise of freedom, justice and mutual respect for all.

#### A TRIBUTE TO ESTHER LEAH RITZ

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 1996*

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute today to one of Milwaukee County's truly outstanding citizens, Esther Leah Ritz. As the Jewish Community Centers Association of Milwaukee prepares to honor Ms. Ritz with the Community Builders Award, for her multitude of contributions to our community, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable achievements of this great woman.

Esther Leah Ritz has been nationally recognized for her unfailing and tireless commitment to working for the betterment of Milwaukee County, the State of Wisconsin, and the entire Nation. Esther Leah has held major leadership positions in her Milwaukee Jewish Community Center, Federation, and the Jewish Community Center movement in North America. During her presidency, the Jewish Community Centers Association launched and began implementing the innovative and acclaimed Commission on Maximizing the Effectiveness of Jewish Education which established Jewish Community Centers as full partners in the community process of promoting formal and informal Jewish education and continuity.

Esther Leah has also provided skilled leadership for many other Jewish organizations including Americans For Peace Now, Council For Initiatives In Jewish Education, Council of Jewish Federations, Jerusalem Center For Public Affairs, Jewish Agency For Israel, Joint Distribution Committee, Mandel Institute For Advanced Study and Development of Jewish Education, Shalom Harman Institute of Israel, and the World Confederation of Jewish Community Centers.

In addition to her excellent work on behalf of so many Jewish organizations in our community, Esther Leah Ritz' influence has been felt far and wide. She was worked diligently for the betterment of key Wisconsin institutions such as the Milwaukee Art Museum, the Institute for Wisconsin's Future, the United Way of Greater Milwaukee, and the Milwaukee Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Jewish Community Centers Association on its excellent selection of Esther Leah Ritz for the distinguished Community Builders Award. I wish Esther Leah continued success in all of her endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE CO.

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 1996*

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an Arizona electric company that has done outstanding working the area of electrical efficiency. Recently, the Arizona Public Service Co. won an award from the Edison Electric Institute for its electrical efficiency in architectural design. As you know, we have some very warm weather in the Southwest, just like we do right here in Washington, DC, creating a tremendous demand for